

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0011] with the following amended paragraph:

[0011] In order to transmit higher data rates, repeaters have been proposed for both acoustic and electromagnetic systems. Installing in or connecting repeaters to the drill string have been described. See for example U.S. Patent ~~6,075,641~~ 6,075,461 to Harrison C. Smith, describing an electromagnetic repeater strapped to a drill string. These installations are highly susceptible to damage during drilling operations. Other devices, inserted in the drill string, typically limit the open diameter of the drill string that is required to run wireline tools and other safety equipment.